



Grant County
PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT
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February 20, 2013

Rob Jones
National Marine Fisheries Services
Salmon Management Division
1201 NE Lloyd Blvd, Suite 1100
Portland, OR 97232

RE: Addendum to Nason Creek spring Chinook hatchery program Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan

Dear Mr. Jones:

On September 15, 2009, Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington (Grant PUD) submitted to National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) a Hatchery and Genetic Management Plan (HGMP) as an application for hatchery section 10 coverage for its Nason Creek spring Chinook hatchery program. Development of this HGMP occurred in consultation with the Priest Rapids Coordinating Committee (PRCC) Hatchery Subcommittee (HSC) which is comprised of the following entities: National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Yakama Nation, the Colville Confederated Tribes and Grant PUD.

The Nason Creek HGMP states that the maximum production level for the Nason Creek program will be 275,000 (This included a 10% additional buffer in production beyond the production levels required under the 2008 NOAA Biological Opinion). Since the submittal of the Nason Creek program HGMP to NMFS, as stipulated in Grant PUD's Salmon and Steelhead Settlement Agreement and the NMFS Biological Opinion for the Priest Rapids Project (FERC No. P-2114), in 2012 the PRCC HSC underwent the required hatchery production adjustment process. Due to this adjustment, the Nason Creek hatchery program production has reduced although Grant PUD did not reduce the capacity for the facility (i.e. the facility was designed for maximum capacity for 275,000, but the adjusted hatchery production is 150,000). Although Grant PUD has not yet constructed the Nason Creek Acclimation Facility, Grant PUD did not reduce the capacity of the facility to allow for future operational flexibility and potential increased production determined at future hatchery production adjustment processes. As such, the Nason Creek facility is adequately sized to accommodate the transfer of the White River hatchery production as well as the Nason Creek program. Moreover, the Nason Creek production levels defined in the HGMP can accommodate both the required production for the Nason Creek and White River hatchery programs.

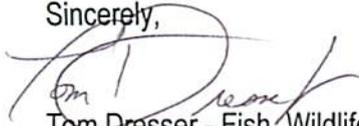
Public Utility District No. 2 of Grant County, Washington

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This addendum is being provided regarding the Nason Creek program to notify NMFS of the Nason Creek program production changes. However, to accommodate both the Nason Creek and White River hatchery programs at the Nason Creek acclimation facility, it is requested that analysis for the respective programs includes the maximum Nason Creek facility capacity of 275,000 smolts.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this addendum to NMFS for their consideration. This addendum has been developed by Grant PUD and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Grant PUD, WDFW and the Yakama Nation plan to be joint permit holders for the Nason Creek hatchery program. If you have any questions or comment, please contact me at (509) 764-0500 extension 2312.

Sincerely,



Tom Dresser - Fish, Wildlife and Water Quality Manager

Cc: Jeff Korth Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Mike Tonseth Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Steve Parker Yakama Nation
PRCC HSC
Amilee Wilson National Marine Fisheries Service
Julie E. Pyper Grant PUD